



Captain Miriam L. Lafferty

Reserve Chief of Staff, Atlantic Area
U.S. Coast Guard



Captain Miriam Lafferty assumed duties as the Atlantic Area Reserve Chief of Staff in October 2018.

Captain Lafferty's career has included a variety of operational and staff assignments, with over 10 years spent on active duty. Following her graduation from the Coast Guard Academy in 1993, she reported aboard the USCGC HARRIET LANE, Portsmouth, VA, serving as a Deck Watch Officer. She assisted with the rescue of hundreds of migrants during the mass exodus from Cuba and Haiti. Her second tour was aboard the USCGC DRUMMOND, Cape Canaveral, FL, as the Executive Officer, where she conducted fishery and law enforcement patrols and provided security assistance for the Space Shuttle launches. Captain Lafferty transferred to the 13th District in Seattle, WA, to serve as the District Commander's Aide and later in the Office of Law Enforcement. She returned to sea in 2000 as the Commanding Officer of the USCGC CHANDELEUR, Miami, FL. She served briefly at the Maritime Intelligence Unit and was on watch as the events of 9/11 unfolded. Her last active duty assignment was in the Secretary of Transportation's Office on Intelligence and Security.



Captain Lafferty's reserve career began at the Joint Military Intelligence College (now known as the National Intelligence University) earning her Master degree in Strategic Studies. After graduation, she worked at Sector North Carolina in the Contingency Planning Department. She transferred to Atlantic Area's Cutter Forces Branch where she was recalled during Deepwater Horizon. Captain Lafferty also served as the Executive Officer for the Coast Guard Reserve Unit at U.S. Southern Command supporting national security objectives throughout Central and South America. Most recently, she was the Senior Reserve Officer for the Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, FL, providing expertise and strategic guidance to the District Commander on the use and employment of nearly 1,000 Reserve forces located throughout the southeast.

Captain Lafferty's awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal and Coast Guard Achievement Medal. In addition, she holds a permanent Cutterman's Insignia.